

July 18, 1973

'Honeymooners' Return Visit



A YOUNG MARRIED COUPLE from Walhain, Belgium, honeymooning in the United States are in the "Belgian Settlement" at Rosiere, returning a visit made last fall to the "old country" by Mr. and Mrs. Willy Monfils of Rosiere.

The Belgian Monfils, Willy and Olga, were picked up by the Rosiere Monfils, Bill and Beulah, at the Green Bay bus station Saturday. When the party reached Rosiere a beautiful cake, decorated in red, white and blue with small flags around the border and the caption "Welcome Olga and Willy to the U.S.A.," welcomed Bill and Olga to the Bill Monfils home. They were also treated to Beulah's delicious Belgian pie. The honeymooners will be staying at the Bill Monfils home for several days.

On Sunday at St. Hubert's church many Rosiere people eagerly greeted the newlyweds along with the numerous other Belgians visiting this area. It was the first time in the church's history that people from Belgium were present at the Sunday Mass. At church Cletus Bellin sang a Belgian hymn to greet the visitors.

The above picture, taken after the services, shows some of the visiting Belgians. Kneeling in

front are Willy and Olga. Standing are Noelle Distexhe, Lilliane Distexhe, Maurice Distexhe, Daniel Distexhe, Michel Distexhe, Mariel Distexhe and Albert Badert.

Willy and Olga are math teachers in their homeland— they are called professors in Belgium — instructing 12 through 14 year olds. They can speak very little English, but converse very well with their relatives and new-found friends in the Rosiere area in the "Walloon" Belgian language.

Willy is originally from Walhain, St. Paul in Belgium while Olga came from Falisolles, Belgium. They were married June 29 and left Luxemburg on July 9 for the honeymoon. Before coming here they visited Philadelphia, Washington, D.C., Cleveland and Chicago. They will leave for Niagara Falls and places in Canada July 26 and then leave for home in Belgium July 28.

Grace LeMense, who supplied much of the information for this write-up, made this reflection on the visitors: "What friendly, loving people our ancestors must have been, as it has been passed on to our younger Belgian friends who reflect this most cordial feeling."

— Record-Herald Photo